advanced technology will ditturb the equilibrium in the region; and

(c) if so. what steps are being contemplated to meet the situation arising due to these submarines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government have conveyed to the Government of France their serious concerns over the negative impact of the transfer of this sophisticated weapons system on the security environment in the region.

Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on national security and take necessary measures to safeguard it.

Diplomatic Defeat of Pakistan at the UN

2214. SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY : DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what is being done to follow up and reinforce the diplomatic defeat of Pakistan in bringing a resolution on Kashmir in the UN;

(b) what diplomatic action Government anticipate from Pakistan as a fallout of this defeat; and

(c) whether Government would supply briefs on this issue to the Members of Parliament ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Although Pakistan continues to try to internationalize the Kashmir issue, Government have repeatedly urged Government of Pakistan to resolve all outstanding issues between the two countries, including differences related to J&K, peacefully and through bilateral negotiations within the framework of the Simla Agreeement.

(c) The Standing Committee of the Ministry has been briefed in detail on these developments.

Expansion of Security Council

2215. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the latest position in regard to the expansion of the Security Council;

(b) whether the group set up to outline the criteria has submitted its report; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government for the inclusion of India as a member of the Council ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) The Working Group has been unable to complete its work and has asked that its mandate be renewed; the 49th General Assembly has authorised it to continue its work and to submit a report at the 50th session of the Assembly.

(c) At the 49th General Assembly, India has announced that, under any objective criteria, it qualifies to be a permanent member. In the Working Group. India, with other developing countries, is helping to develop criteria for the expansion of the permanent membership of the Security Council.

Sri Lankan Navy's attack on Indian Fishermen

2216. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Sri Lankan Navy has attacked the Indian fishermen in the month of October and November, 1994;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the steps taken to protect our fishermen ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) The Government of India have received reports stating that the Sri Lankan Navy attacked Indian fishermen in the month of October and November, 1994.

(b) On October 24, 1994, two Indian fishing boats with four crew members in each were said to have been attacked by the Sri Lankan Navy who assaulted the fishermen causing stab injuries to two fishermen and damage to their fishing nets etc. On November 3, 1994, an Indian fishing boat with five fishermen on board was said to have been fired upon by the Sri Lankan Navy resulting in the death of one fisherman.

These incidents have been taken up strongly by the Government of India with the Sri Lankan Government expressing our concern. A response is awaited regarding the October incident. The Sri Lanka Government has replied that their authorities concerned have, after investigation, stated that they are not aware of the November 3 incident.

(c) At official discussions held in March 1994. both sides agreed to implement effectively measures to prevent incidents affecting Indian fishermen. These measures relate to (i) precautions to be observed by fishermen; and (ii) steps to be taken by